



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2004

No. 107

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, September 13, 2004, at 12:30 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2004

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Infinite Spirit, You made heaven and Earth, the sea and all that is in them. Thank You for Your gracious righteousness that is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Help us to find rest and peace in You. Loose us from the chains of addictions that prevent us from doing Your will. Remind us of the foolishness of seeking security apart from You. Make us a righteous Nation so that You will be our shelter and shield. Bless the Members of this body. Help them in the making of laws to execute justice for the oppressed and to set the captives free. Protect them in their work and keep them from those things that lead to ruin.

Today we pause to remember the victims of September 11. Comfort their families and friends and continue to be the shield of protection for America; for You are our rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REMEMBRANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will observe a moment of silence in remembrance of the events of September 11, 2001.

(Moment of silence.)

LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the use of leader time. The majority leader is recognized.

REFLECTING ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we in the Senate honor the memory of the victims of the September 11 attacks. Tomorrow, all Americans will take time from the regular course of their weekend to do the same—to reflect in their own personal way on the terrible events of 3 years ago.

The essence of the tragedy of September 11, 2001, remains self-evident: The victims were innocent. They were simply going about their daily lives, working at their desks, answering emergency calls, traveling on business or vacation.

All had families who loved them and still love them to this day. I think of Brenda Vandever of Farragut, TN. She lost her brother, Tony Karnes, in the attack on the World Trade Center Towers. Brenda recently said:

I got over the car crash that my other brother died in, and I dealt with it when my

mom and dad died. But Tony went to work that day thinking just like we do, that nothing is going to happen. You just don't get over that.

We all feel a profound sadness for those who lost loved ones on that fateful day. There is little we can say or do to fill the immense void in their hearts. But we can hope and we can pray that one day the wounds of those who still hurt may heal.

September 11 impressed upon us that life is a precious gift. Every life has a purpose. And I think we all have a duty to devote at least a small portion of our daily lives to ensuring that neither America nor the world ever forgets September 11.

Something that Karyn and I did was to take our three boys, our three sons, to New York City to visit Ground Zero soon after the attacks. We wanted to sear in their minds a lasting and vivid memory of the worst that evil can do in the world but at the same time the best that we can do in America.

Our Nation will, of course, always remember the courage of the emergency workers who rushed to Ground Zero on that fateful day; who rushed to help in Shanksville, PA; who rushed to the Pentagon just a mile from here. These heroes risked their lives, and many lost their lives, so that others may live—or at the very least their families could live—in peace.

Within 24 hours of when terrorists crashed flight 77 into the Pentagon, 76 members of the Tennessee Task Force 1 were on the scene and were hard at work. They were dispatched to rescue but soon discovered that their work would be recovery.

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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